



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Francisco Bay Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, California 94612
(510) 622-2300 • Fax (510) 622-2460
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay>

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

September 5, 2008

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
AND FILING OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**
Revising a Proposed Amendment to the
Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin, incorporating a
TMDL and IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
TO REDUCE SEDIMENT IN THE SONOMA CREEK WATERSHED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) will hold a public hearing to amend its Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan). This amendment will establish:

- **A total maximum daily load (TMDL) for sediment in the Sonoma Creek watershed, and an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL**
- **A Habitat Enhancement Plan for the watershed**

The hearing will be held as follows:

HEARING DATE:	December 10, 2008 (subject to change) ¹
TIME:	9:00 a.m. (approximate)
LOCATION:	Elihu M. Harris State Building First Floor Auditorium 1515 Clay Street Oakland, CA 94612

The Water Board conducted a hearing on the proposed Basin Plan amendment on April 9, 2008, after a 45-day public comment period. Since that time, staff have revised the proposed Basin Plan amendment and supporting staff report, and are opening an additional comment period on revisions to the Basin Plan amendment and supporting staff report. Changes to the February 8, 2008 documents include:

- A new performance standard for vineyards, in both the Basin Plan amendment and the Staff Report
- Revisions to the Regulatory Analysis, Staff Report Section 9

The revised documents are available online for downloading, review, and comment, at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/tmdls/sonomacrkssedimenttmdl.shtml. They are also available through the staff contact for this project, Tina Low, 1515 Clay St., Ste. 1400, Oakland, CA 94612, tlow@waterboards.ca.gov, (510) 622-5682.

This public comment period will close at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, October 21, 2008. All written comments on the proposed amendment and accompanying Staff Report are due by this date to the staff contact. At this time, staff are soliciting comments only on the recent revisions, which are shown in underline/ strikeout. Interested parties are not required to resubmit previously submitted comments, as they are already under consideration and will be included in the record. Additionally, all evidence, testimony, and exhibits to be offered at the hearing must be submitted in writing by this date to the staff contact. Non-evidentiary policy statements to be made at the hearing need not be submitted in advance.

¹ Please refer to the website given below for any hearing date changes and updates.



Staff will revise the Basin Plan amendment and Staff Report in response to comments received during both comment periods. Responses will be posted, along with a Basin Plan amendment and Staff Report proposed for adoption by the Water Board, in advance of the December 10 hearing.

The hearing will be conducted in accordance with 23 Cal. Code of Regs. §649.3. Time limits may be imposed on oral testimony at the public hearings; groups are encouraged to designate a spokesperson. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including changes to the proposed amendment that are consistent with the general purpose of the amendment and are a logical outgrowth of the evidence and testimony received. The Board will take action in accordance with a regulatory program certified under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code as exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under CEQA and with other applicable laws and regulations.

A map and directions to the hearing are available online at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/direction.shtml>. The location of the hearings is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact Executive Assistant Mary Tryon, (510) 622 2399, mtryon@waterboards.ca.gov, at least five (5) working days before a meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Bruce H. Wolfe
Executive Officer